Reading in the Content Area & The Common Core

AMY L. BARTELL

- Medaille College, Adjunct Professor
- Clarence Central Schools, Office of Curriculum & Staff Development
- Former Buffalo Public Schools, Reading Coach & Elementary Teacher (K, 2, 3, 5, & 6)

Today's Objectives

- Understand the considerations in the Common Core's Appendix A
- Revisit nonfiction/expository text features, and discuss strategies we use to teach them
- Discuss the Lexile measure and how it should be used to enhance student learning
- Explore tools to enhance student learning in vocabulary and comprehension

Mr. Seinfeld assigns a text reading…

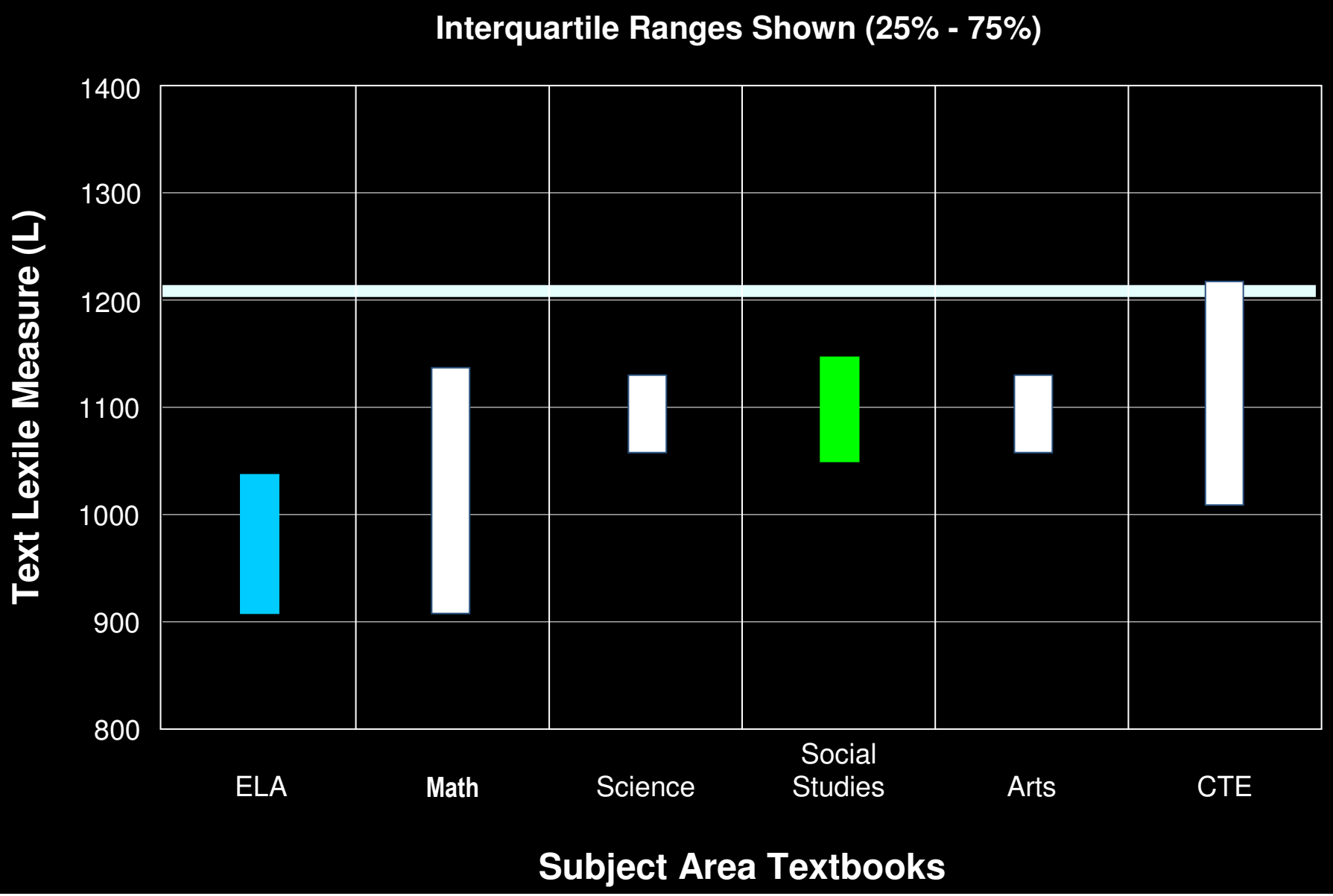
- http://cooperativelearning.nuvvo.com/lesson/9592-seinfeld-teaches-history

Let’s Examine
Some National Data

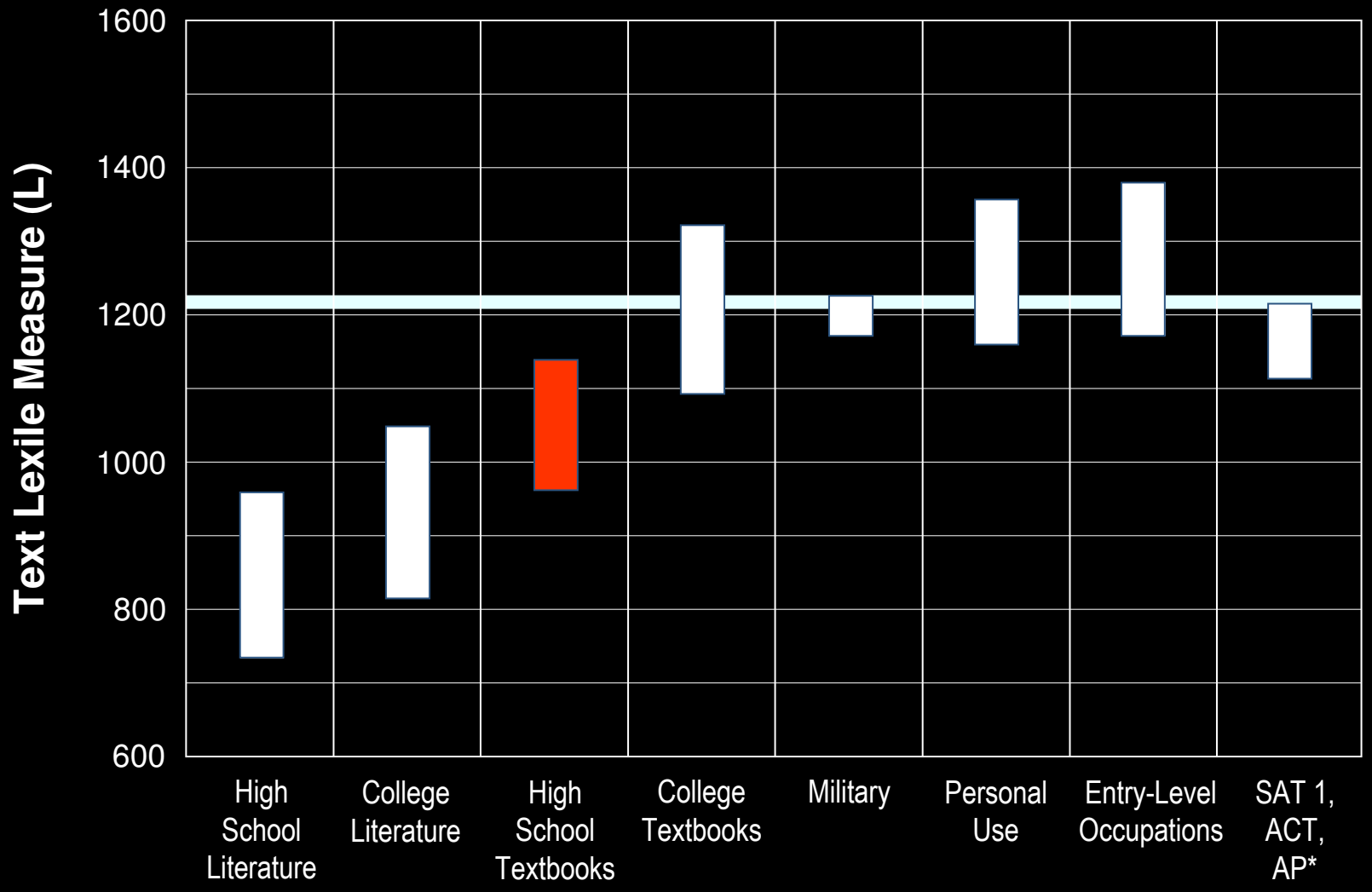
What do you notice?

2005-06 Lexile Framework® for Reading Study

Summary of High School Textbook Lexile Measures



2005-06 Lexile Framework® for Reading Study
Summary of Text Lexile Measures
Interquartile Ranges Shown (25% - 75%)



* Source of National Test Data: MetaMetrics

What does this data imply?

January 10, 2011:

"…***a date which will live in infamy…***"

What is included in these documents?

- New York State Common Core (NY added some – including PreK – to the National Common Core)
  - PK-12 ELA
  - PK-12 Math
- Common Core Standards (scroll down for link)
  - Appendix A (Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects)
  - Appendix B (Sample Text for each grade and content level)
  - Appendix C (Sample Student Writing at each grade level)

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS FOR

English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects

Appendix A:

Research Supporting
Key Elements of the Standards

Glossary of Key Terms

Activity 1: Rationale

- Take a number from the center of your table
- Find the section of Appendix A which is marked with your number
- Find those members
- Read and discuss, completing the graphic organizer together
- List your points and summary on the chart paper
- You will have 5 minutes to complete this activity
- You will share out when done – every member will have a responsibility in the sharing

Activity 2:
Text Complexity

- Qualitative Dimensions
- Quantitative Dimensions
- Reader and Task Considerations

Bringing Features of Text and the Common Core "together"

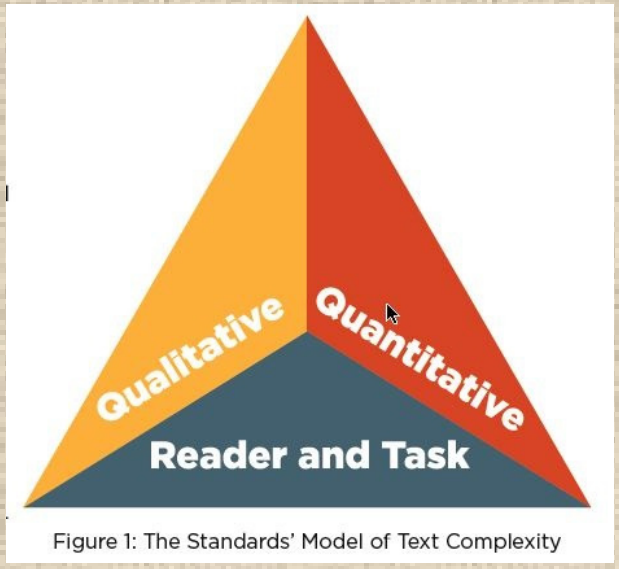


Figure 1: The Standards' Model of Text Complexity

Let's examine the QUALITATIVE FEATURES our own text and discuss the strategies we use to scaffold learning

Qualitative Features of Expository Text

- Sequence
- Cause/effect
- Compare/contrast
- Problem/solution
- Proposition/support

2009 NAEP Framework

	English	Mathematics	History	Science
text type	literary	informational or technical, symbolic, diagrams	expository, argumentative, persuasive	Informational or technical, diagrams
text structure	plot, setting, characterization, point of view, verse, rhyme	sequence, cause and effect, problem and solution, supporting ideas and evidence, graphical features	sequence, cause and effect, problem and solution, author's perspective supporting ideas and evidence, contrasting viewpoints, graphical features	sequence, cause and effect, problem and solution, supporting ideas and evidence, graphical features
author's craft	diction, dialogue, symbolism, imagery, irony, figurative language	rhetorical structure, examples, logical arguments	figurative language, rhetorical structure, examples, emotional appeal	rhetorical structure, examples, logical arguments

Features Depend on Content

- Physical layout (placement and amount of graphics, charts, footnotes, bold text, etc.)
- Text type (genre, figurative language, etc.)
- Text structure (location of main idea vs. details, sequence, proposition/support, compare/contrast, etc.)
- Text density/readability (syntax, complexity of sentences = level of text, ex: Lexile)
- Assumed vocabulary and background knowledge necessary to comprehend concepts

Activity 3:
Explore Text Features

- Work in pairs or small groups of 4
- Using the same text, one partner completes the "**Checklist for Considerate Text Characteristics**"
- The other partner uses the "**Text Complexity Rubric for Literary or Informational Text"**
- Calculate your textbook's "score"

Share

- Which rubric was more helpful? Why?
- What are the features of your text that you anticipate students will have the most difficulty with?
  - Why?
- What strategies would you use to assist student's understanding of the material based on the text features that are cumbersome? (**See "TRIMS" Handouts**)
  - Let's SHARE!

How can we further scaffold and extend?

Level the Text!

Using Lexiles to Level Text

The Lexile® Framework for Reading

Matching readers with texts

What is a Lexile?

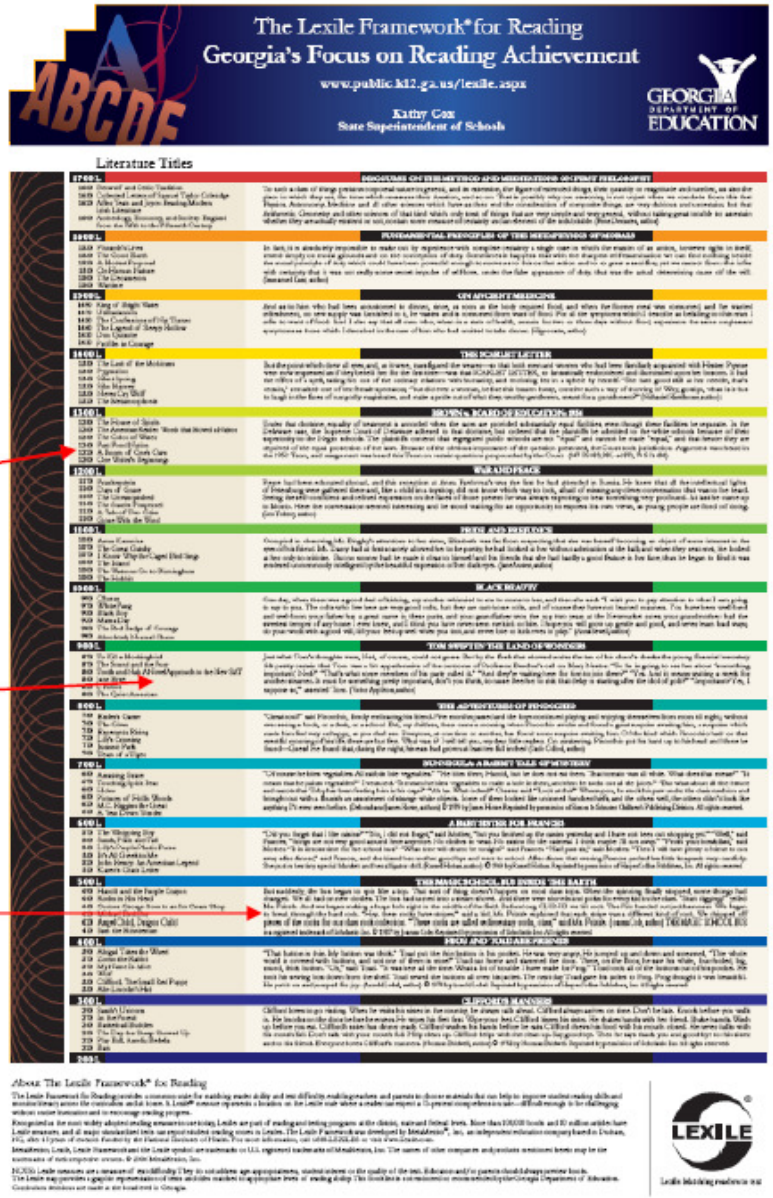
- Measure assigned to text based on the complexity of the language used and text structure.
  - Syntax (length of sentences)
  - Semantics (lengths of words)
- Measure can be assigned to student's ability to read a particular range of text with 75% comprehension

The Lexile Map

Lexile Measure

Literature Titles

Benchmarks (Sample Text)



Features of www.Lexile.com

- Book Search
  - Subject
  - Type of text (genre, presentation)
  - Level
  - Length (# of pages)
  - Language (English or Spanish)

Home | My Reading List (0) | Store | Profile | Logout

The Lexile® Framework for Reading

Matching readers with texts

Quick Book Search:

Title or Author

Search

Put an exact title or author in quotes (example: "new moon")

About Lexile Measures | Using Lexile Measures | Tools | Research | Professional Development

Enter Lexile ▶ [+] Select Interests ▶ Search Results ▶ Reading List

Find the right BOOK for YOU!

Enter your Lexile measure, select your interests, and find books you'd like to read! Whether you're reading for school or for pleasure, you can use this site to build a custom reading list on the subjects that interest you the most. (For more information, see the user guide)

My Lexile measure is

Please enter either a Lexile measure or range.

Measure: L

OR

Range: L to L

Continue

I don't know my Lexile measure

Please enter your grade level and check one of the options below.

My current grade is: Kindergarten

- I find the books I read for school difficult.
- I find the books I read for school just right.
- I find the books I read for school easy.

Continue

Look up a Book

Search for books based on title, author, keywords, and more.

Title:

Author:

Keywords:

ISBN:

More Options

Search

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The Lexile® Framework for Reading
Matching readers with texts

Quick Book Search: Title or Author — Search
Put an exact title or author in quotes (example: "new moon") — Advanced Search

About Lexile Measures | Using Lexile Measures | Tools | Research

Enter Lexile ▸ Select Interests ▸ Search Results ▸ Reading List

Add all to My Reading List

Results per page: 20 Sorting: Targeted Reading

Found 7 books

Remarkable Women of the American ...	Author: Zenati, Karen Summary: Examines the important contributions of various women, both Patriot and Loyalist, during the American Revolution.	NC1280L	Pages: 55 Ages: 10 and up Series: Women at War Ser.
John Hancock: A Signature Life	Author: Kostyu, Philip Summary: Recounts the life of the colonial statesman, merchant, and patriot who became prominent during the American ...	NC1250L	Pages: 100 Ages: 11 to 13 Series: Rook Report Biographies Ser.
Shot Heard 'Round the World, ...	Author: Stockton, Jeanne M. Summary: Wide selection of personal narratives from participants and observers of the American Revolution.	1240L	Pages: 52 Series: Perspectives on History Ser.
Black Heroes of the American ...	Author: Davis, Burke Summary: AN ACCOUNT OF THE BLACK SOLDIERS, SAILORS, SPIES, SCOUTS, GUIDES, AND WAGONERS WHO PARTICIPATED AND SACRIFICED ...	1330L	Pages: 52 Ages: 10 and up
Founding Mothers: Women of America ...	Author: DePauw, Linda Grant Summary: DESCRIPTION OF THE DAILY LIVES, SOCIAL ROLES, AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.	1220L	Pages: 219 Ages: 12 to 12
American Revolution, The	Author: Carter, Alden R. Summary: DISCUSSES THE CAUSES, EVENTS, CAMPAIGNS, PERSONALITIES, AND AFTERMATH OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR.	1200L	Pages: 54 Ages: 10 to 12 Series: First Stop - America at War
Real Revolution, The: The Global ...	Author: Aronson, Marc	1180L	Pages: 155 Ages: 12 to 17

Refine your results
For more information see the user guide.

Remove Previous Search

Move the sliders to adjust your search results by age appropriateness and Lexile range.

Age(s): 0 to Adult

Lexile range: 1155L to 1405L

Email me when a book is in my range

Categories
- Adventure [remove]
- Animals [remove]
- Art [remove]
- Biography [remove]
- Business & Law [remove]
- Fairy Tales, Myths, & Folktales [remove]
- Family, Childhood, & Education [remove]
- Fantasy [remove]
- Fiction & Literature [remove]
- Food & Home [remove]
- Graphic Novels & Comics [remove]
- Health [remove]
- History & Social Studies [remove]
- Humor & Comics [remove]
- Military [remove]
- Music, TV, Movies, & more [remove]
- Mystery [remove]
- Nature [remove]
- Philosophy [remove]
- References & Languages [remove]
- Religion & Beliefs [remove]
- Romance [remove]
- Science & Technology [remove]
- Social Issues [remove]
- Sports [remove]
- Transportation [remove]
- Travel & Places [remove]
- True Crime [remove]

Change category selections

Limit by keyword
American Revolution

Limit by book type
- Juvenile fiction
- Juvenile nonfiction
- Fiction
- Award winners
- Books in series

Limit by Lexile code
- AD (Adult Directed)
- GN (Graphic Novel)
- HL (HighLow)
- IG (Illustrated Guide)
- NC (NonConforming)
- NP (NonProse)

Limit by page count

Limitations of Lexile Measures

What Lexile text measures don't address

Text Characteristics

- Age-appropriateness of Content
- Text Support (pictures, pull-outs)
- Text Quality (Is it a good book?)

Reader Characteristics

- Interest and Motivation
- Background Knowledge
- Reading Context and Purpose

- Lexile text measures only measure text readability.
- Therefore, input from readers, parents, teachers and librarians is necessary.

Features of Lexile continued… Lexile Analyzer

Home | My Reading List (0) | Store | Profile | Logout

The Lexile® Framework for Reading
Matching readers with texts

Quick Book Search:
Title or Author
Search
Put an exact title or author in quotes (example: "new moon")
Advanced Search

About Lexile Measures | Using Lexile Measures | Tools | Research | Professional Development

Get a Lexile® Text Measure

You can use the our online tools to determine the estimated Lexile® measure of edited, conventional prose text. Just follow our guidelines for preparing a text, upload it, and the Lexile measure will be displayed.

Browse... Submit

Online help and user guides

The help links to the right detail how to use either the English Lexile Analyzer or Spanish Lexile Analyzer to get an instructionally useful estimated Lexile measure. You may also view the user guide here.

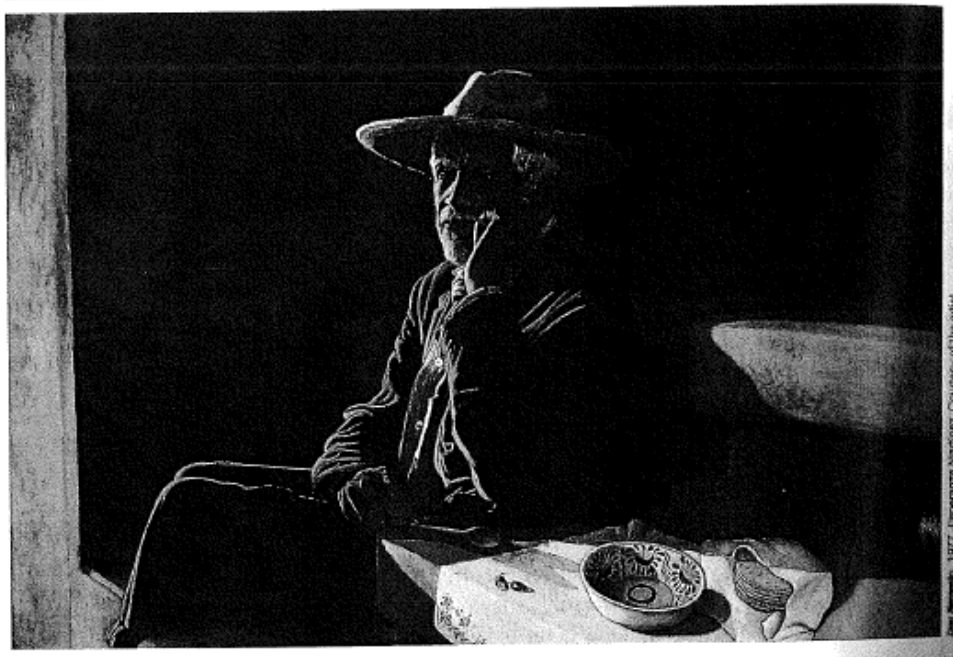
Online Help

- Step 1: What kinds of texts can be measured
- Step 2: Prepare your text for measurement
- Step 3: Type or scan your text
- Step 4: Convert your text into a plain text file
- Step 5: Analyze your text and get results
- Using the Professional Analyzer®

Click to decrease the magnification of the entire page

A Celebration of Grandfathers

Rudolfo A. Anaya



Zoe Alexander, 1977, Esperanza Martinez. Courtesy of the artist.

Buenos días le de Dios, abuelo."[1] God give you a good day, grandfather. This is how I was taught as a child to greet my grandfather, or any grown person. It was a greeting of respect, a cultural value to be passed on from generation to generation, this respect for the old ones.

The old people I remember from my childhood were strong in their beliefs, and as we lived daily with them we learned a wise path of life to follow. They had something important to share with the young, and when they spoke the young listened. These old abuelos and abuelitas[2] had worked the earth all their lives, and so they

▲ Critical Viewing As you read, consider which aspects of the man in this painting resemble the description of the elders in the essay. **[Compare and Contrast]**

1. **Buenos días le de Dios, abuelo** (bwā′ nes dē′ äs lā dā dē′ ōs ä bwā lō)
2. **abuelitas** (ä bwā lē′ täs) grandmothers.

To get a lexile measure…

- Go to www.Lexile.com
- Try to search for the book or journal first to see if it has already been "Lexiled"
- Go to the Lexile Analyzer
  - You will need a free account for this
- Prepare a "plain text" file in word
  - Directions located on website or in my wiki
- Load the text file in the analyzer and…

Viola!

Home | My Reading List (0) | Store | Profile | Logout

The Lexile® Framework for Reading
Matching readers with texts

Quick Book Search:
Title or Author
Search
Put an exact title or author in quotes (example: "new moon")
Advanced Search

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Lexile Analyzer: Results

Results

Lexile measure	1080L
Mean Sentence Length	18.92
Mean Log Word Frequency	3.69
Word Count	454

These results are not saved in any retrievable way. You should print this screen and note your filename or the title of your sample text. If you do not print or record the results, you will have to re-analyze your sample text to know its Lexile measure.

Submit another file

File to Analyze: Browse...

Submit

This is the Lexile Level of an ELA text nonfiction section: "A Celebration of Grandfathers"

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How can we match students to text?

- Administer or correlate a reading assessment (ex: SRI, ATOS, fluency measure)
- Listen to the student read a passage from a text with a known Lexile
- Take a sample of the student's "best" nonfiction writing and enter it into the analyzer

- *NOTE*: the instructional range +50 to +150 the Lexile of the student
  - Motivation
  - Background knowledge
  - Experience with text
  - Enhancement features (photos, etc.)

Ideas for Use…

- Vary reading difficulty of material to the situation:
  - Choose texts lower in the student's Lexile range when factors make the reading situation more challenging, threatening or unfamiliar.
  - Select texts at or above the student's range
  - To stimulate growth when a topic is of extreme interest to a student, or when you will be giving additional support such as background teaching or discussion.

Using Lexiles in the Classroom

Teachers can use the Lexile measure to:

- Develop **individualized or classroom reading lists** tailored to different measures to provide appropriately challenging reading.
- Enhance thematic teaching by building a **bank of titles or articles at varying levels** that support the theme, but also allow all students to participate successfully in the theme with material at their own reading level.
- **Sequence materials by increasing the difficulty of read-aloud books throughout the year.**

Implications for Literacy?

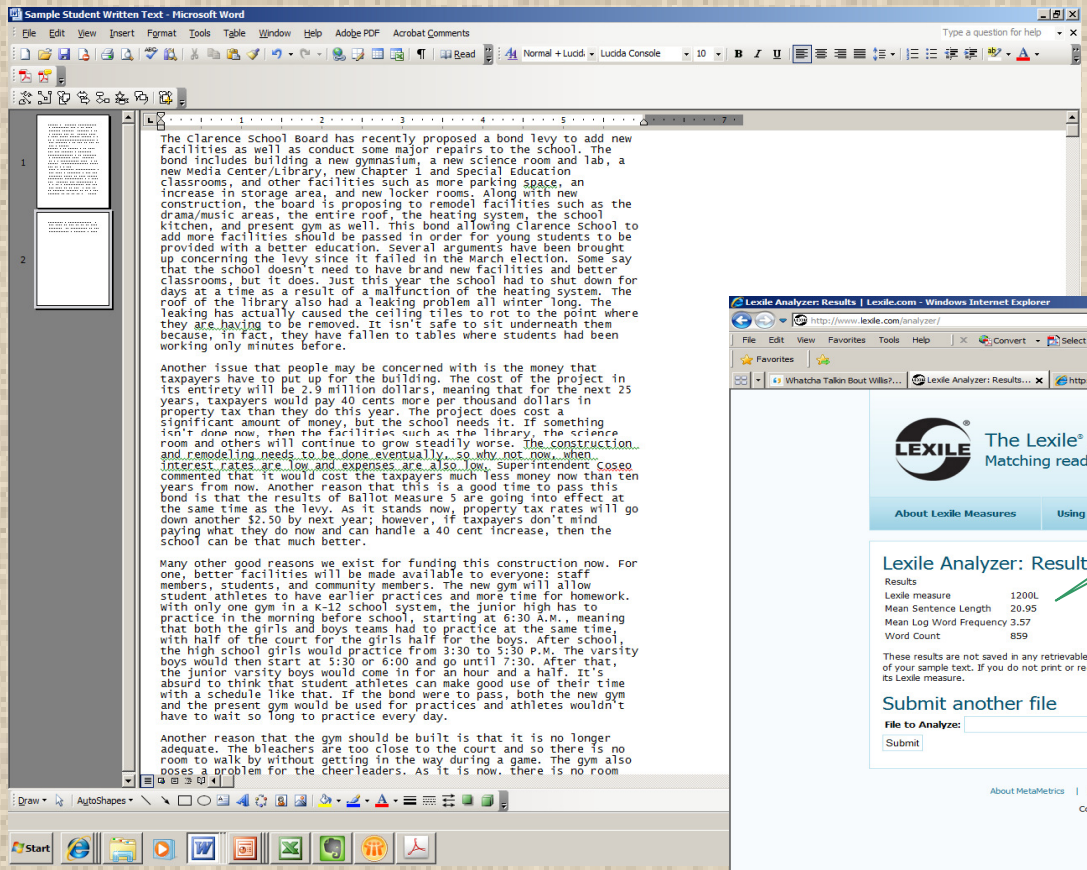
Reading

- Support students Below Level of textbook
- Enrich students Above Level of textbook

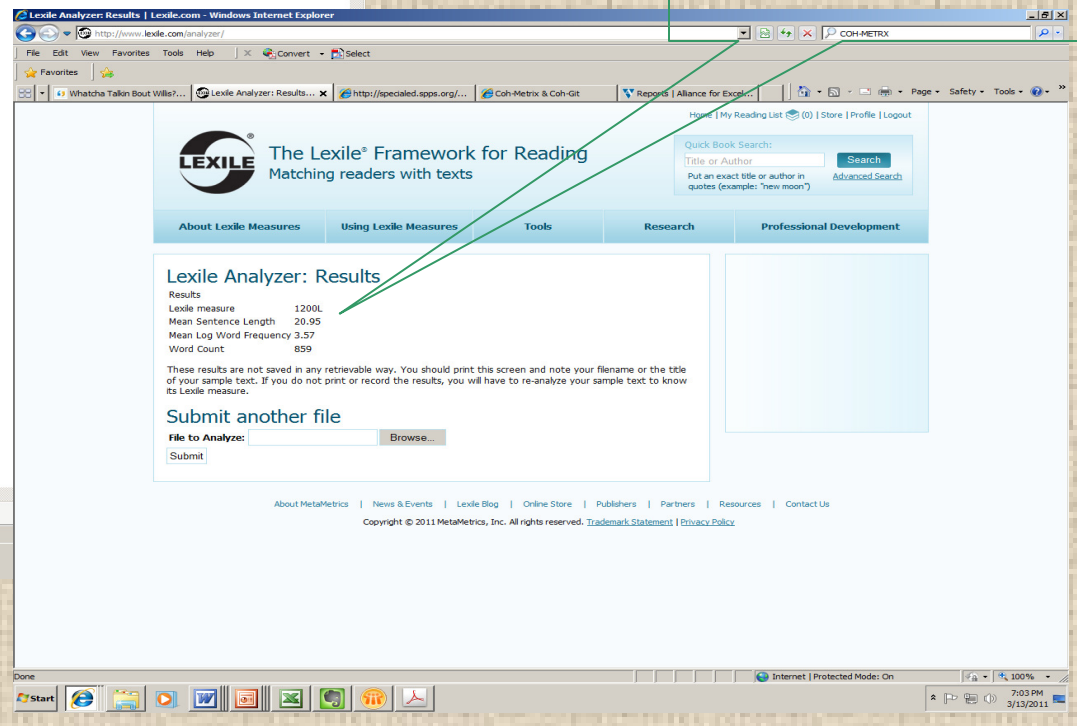
Writing

- Easily identify the student's level of writing in comparison to reading
- Increase reading as a result of increased language usage in writing

Using the Lexile Analyzer for student writing…



Find the student's lexile level of writing



Enhancing Vocabulary

The Academic Word List

The Academic Word List

- Words which carry the most overlap between the subject areas
- Organized into 10 sub lists
- Mostly “Tier 2” words
- Found heavily on the SAT
- The easiest way to increase student’s reading comprehension
- The easiest way to enhance a student’s writing

Work Smarter, Not Harder!

- Examine passages for words which are cross-curricular
- Design cross-curricular units which utilize many of the same vocabulary terms
  - Enhances student's ability to
    - Transfer knowledge
    - Make connections

Example:

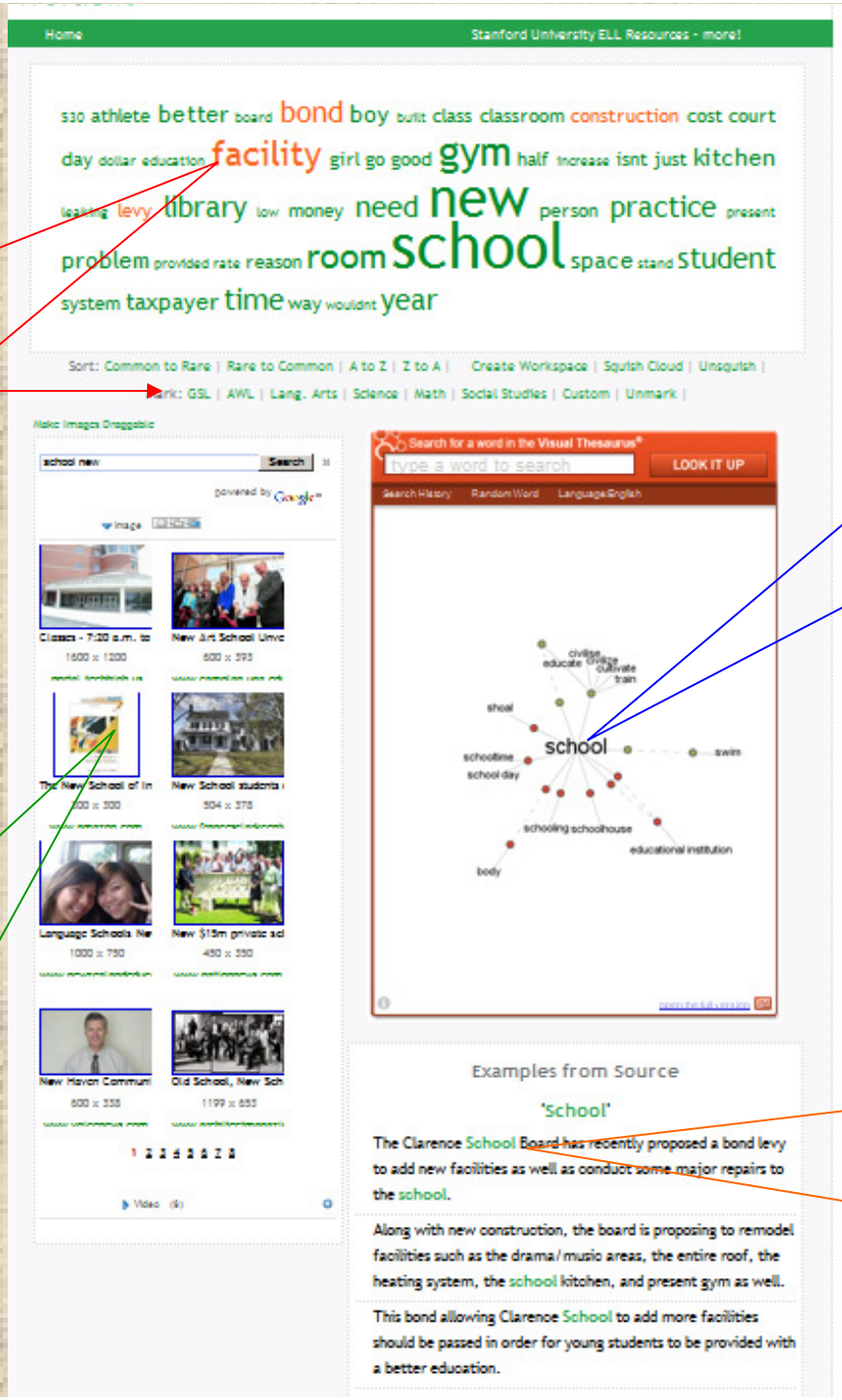
- Student Sample A
  - Highlight & Copy the Text (control C)
- Go to www.wordsift.com
  - Paste the text into the text box (control V)
  - Click on “sift”

Red words are highlighted according to your choices.

Here they are from the AWL

Related photos to the word you click are shown here.

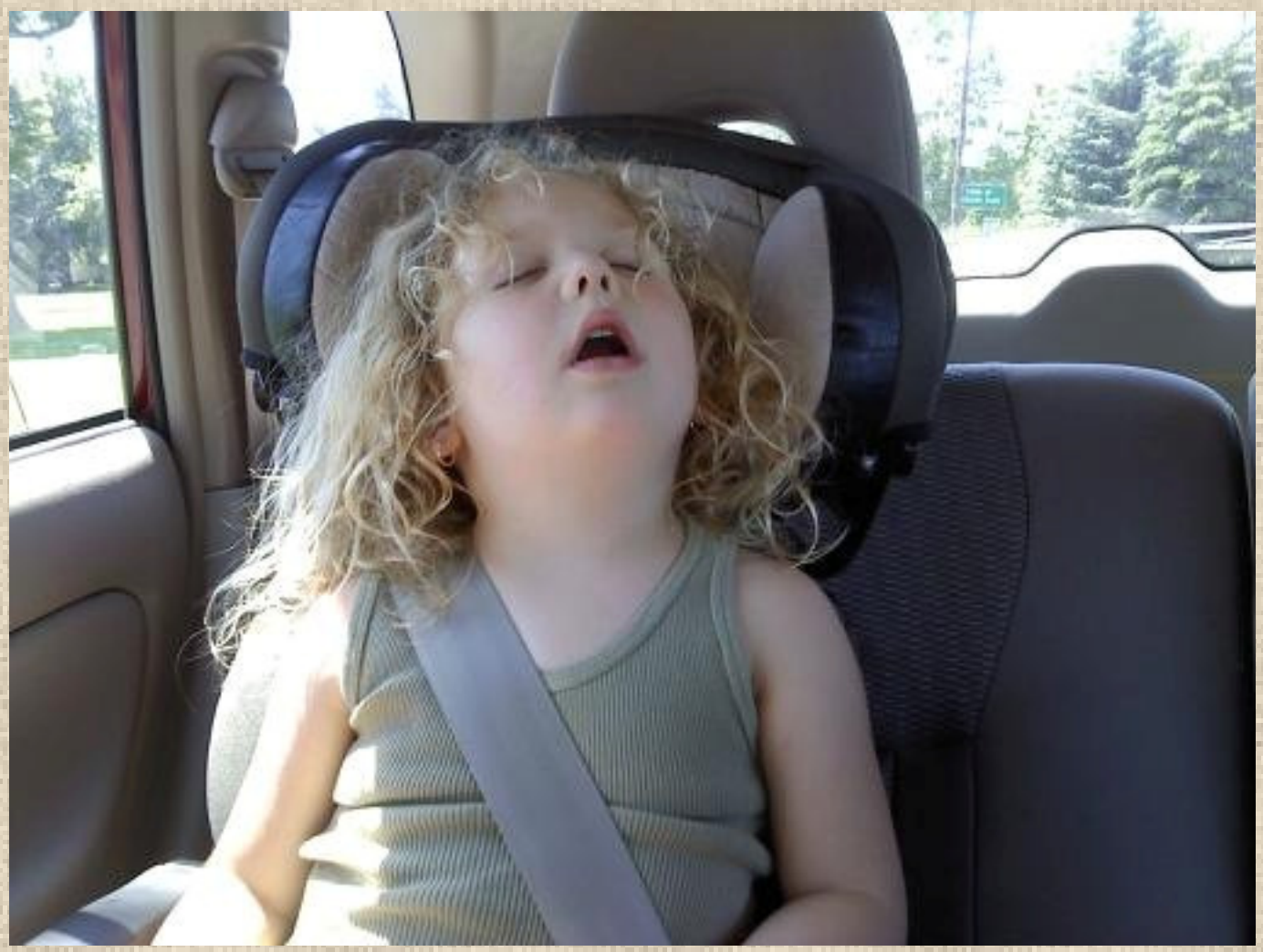
Can be used for an instant vocabulary map



Synonyms are shown here from the thesaurus using the word you have clicked on

Example sentences are generated for the word as well!

We can use this to MOTIVATE our students!!



In Conclusion

By increasing text complexity, and scaffolding student learning with vocabulary and comprehension necessary for our content area, we are enhancing and enriching student's literacy skills, which will provide them with the necessary skills for success at the college and career level.

Thank you!

- Please contact me with questions:
  abartell@clar.wnryric.org

- Please visit my wiki for access to this presentation and all related materials!

http://iroquoisreadingcontentarea.wikispaces.com/

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